

**TOY DISTRICT/DOWNTOWN INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2007
MINUTES**

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: Ernest Doizaki, Donald Kanner, Howard Klein, William Shinbane, Mark Shinbane, Michael Tansey and Paul Vert.

Absent: Richard Gardner, Matt Klein, Richard Meruelo, Thomas Payne, Larry Rauch and Charlie Woo.

STAFF: Tara Devine, Raquel King, Greg Lee, Estela Lopez and Vicky McCormick.

CONSULTANTS: Qathryn Brehm. Ken Coelho. Don Steier.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vert called the meeting to order with a quorum at 12:04pm.

Lopez played footage from the Channel 9 news of the October Skid Row Neighborhood Watch Walk, in which Chief Bratton walked with CCEA staff, Council District 9, Midnight Mission and members of the community.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS- None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tansey made a motion to approve the September 25, 2007 minutes, and Klein seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

IV. OPERATIONS UPDATE

Office Mark Hyland of LAPD Newton Area reported that he and his partner Officer Rick Madrigal are putting more emphasis on

the loiterers around Inner City Arts. Officer Hyland stated that it would not be tolerated around the school.

Officer Hyland invited the Board to attend a 10-week Citizens Police Academy held at the LAPD Academy in Elysian Park.

Lopez informed the Board that Heather MacDonald, contributing editor to the “City Journal”, spent the summer in Los Angeles interviewing CCEA staff and board members, LAPD and various service providers regarding homelessness in Skid Row. MacDonald’s article in the “City Journal,” a publication of the Manhattan Institute was published and is available in print only. It will not be available on-line until an abbreviated version of it is reprinted in the Wall Street Journal in a few weeks.

Lopez reported that Councilwoman Jan Perry and the City Council honored CCEA for its “Skid Row Walk” in council chambers on September 28.

McCormick reported that illegal vending in the Toy District had decreased significantly thanks to the new LAPD Senior Lead Officer, Earl Wright. McCormick mentioned that prostitution had decreased as well, due to Officer Mark Hyland of Newton Area and the foot beats he has assigned to the area.

McCormick reported that there was a slight increase in the number of shopping carts collected in October, as well as unattended property.

King reported that as a direct result of the CCEA donated surveillance cameras placed throughout the district, LAPD made forty-one arrests in the month of October. LAPD would be doing special camera details throughout October and early November.

Lopez reported that on an emergency basis Council Districts 9 and 14 agreed to fund pressure washing throughout the Industrial District. Council District 14 has given \$4,250, which pays for five

weeks of pressure washing. CD9 will match CD 14's gift. The pressure washing will begin Monday, October 29, 2007.

Lopez briefed the Board on the progress of the maintenance RFP. Lopez informed the Board that two of the proposals were insufficient in terms of detail and requested additional information in order to fairly compare the proposals. Lopez added that the Toy District trash consultants from Englander & Associates provided a questionnaire for the bidders.

ACLU Settlement- Lopez informed the board that the City Council had approved a settlement with the ACLU on the Jones v. City of L.A. lawsuit. The agreement prohibits police from enforcing MC 41.18(d) (sleeping on the sidewalk) between 9pm to 6am. The only requirement is that there be a 10-foot clearance from any active doorway, driveway or loading dock. Police must also provide reasonable time for dismantling the tents.

Lopez stated that Councilwoman Jan Perry plans to draft an anti-camping ordinance proposal, which allows the police to determine whether people are bedding down for the night, or actually living there on the sidewalk.

V. SFW Group Presentation

A presentation regarding a new BID Information Management System was presented to the Board. This system is currently being used by the Hollywood Entertainment BID.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

Coelho reported y-t-d 2007 financials. He reported that DID's financials have worked better than ever for most of the year; \$22,000 in delinquent funds had been collected. The Arts District has paid all monies owed to DID.

Coelho informed the Board that by year-end the projected cash balance would be \$85,000; this includes \$22,000 in Toy District. Coelho stated that realistically there would be a \$50,000 shortfall at year-end, instead of \$100,000.

The Operations Committee will meet on October 29 to review the proposed 2008 Toy and DID budgets. Assessments for 2008 will increase by 3% in Toy and 4% in DID.

VII. NEW BUSINESS- None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT- The meeting of the Board was adjourned at 1:33pm.